IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend page 20, lines 3-5 as follows:

"Blunt end endonucleases" are those which hydrolyze both strands of a nucleic acid, and do so without leaving an overhanging end. A number of blunt end endonucleases are listed in Table 2, below. The restriction sites for some of the blunt end endonucleases listed in Table 2 are accorded sequence identifiers as follows: BsaBI is GATNNNNATC (SEQ ID NO: 16); MlyI is GAGTCNNNNN (SEQ ID NO: 4); MslI is CAYNNNNRTG (SEQ ID NO: 5); OliI is CACNNNNGTG (SEQ ID NO: 6); PshAI is GACNNNNGTC (SEQ ID NO: 7); SspD5I is GGTGANNNNNNNN (SEQ ID NO: 8); and XmnI is GAANNNNTTC (SEQ ID NO: 9).

Please amend page 24, line 21 through to page 25, line 3 as follows:

Synthesis of the complementary strand will produce the following double-stranded nucleic acid:

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                2  3
[CTCAGNACC  G▼GT▼NNNN . . . -5'
[GAGTCNTGG▲C▲CA▲NNNN . . . -3'
              1 2  3
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which can be nicked at position 1 by N.BstNBI, and is cleavable across both strands at position 2 by MlyI, and at position 3 by BalI, another blunt cutter with restriction site TGG^CCA. The single stranded template can be removed by use of N.BstNBI, or the original hairpin can be recovered by using BalI, followed by N.BstNBI to recover the overhang. Alternatively, a new type of blunt hairpin can be made by incorporating "CCA" onto the 3' end of the hairpin to make it completely double-stranded. The sequences shown in the above hairpin, in 5' to 3' order, are NNNNTGGCCANGACTC (SEQ ID NO: 14) and GAGTCNTGGCCANNNN (SEQ ID NO: 15).